



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P.O. Box 3378
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:
File:

Committee on Health

HB 761, RELATING TO INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES

Testimony of Loretta J. Fuddy, ACSW, MPH
Acting Director of Health

February 7, 2011

- 1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health is in support of H.B. 761
- 2 **Fiscal Implications:** None.
- 3 **Purpose and Justification:** H.B. 761 relates to changing references in the Hawaii Revised Statutes
- 4 from "Mental Retardation" or like terms to "Intellectual Disability" or like terms. This term will
- 5 compliment the Developmental Disabilities Division's authorizing statute HRS 333F and have a great
- 6 impact on honoring an individual's self-determination. This term is recognized by the federal
- 7 government and implemented through statute and federal regulations. Hawaii will join the country and
- 8 professional organizations that have changed their language from Mental Retardation to Intellectual
- 9 Disabilities to respect people first.
- 10 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



LATE Testimony

February 7, 2011

The Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
House Committee on Health
State Capitol
State of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: HB 761 – RELATING TO INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES

Dear Chairman Yamane:

As State Director for Best Buddies Hawaii, I have extensive experience working with students and adults that that have intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Best Buddies is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to establishing a global volunteer movement that creates opportunities for one-to-one friendships, integrated employment, and leadership development for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Along with our fellow organization, Special Olympics, Best Buddies International has been fighting the battle to eliminate the "R" word for years.

I am in strong support of HB 761.

Adopting this bill would have a very positive impact on increasing the self esteem of individuals having an intellectual disability and on the way our society views them.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael McCormick".

Michael McCormick
State Director, Best Buddies Hawaii

Sent: Sunday, February 06, 2011 8:34 PM
To: HUS testimony
Subject: FW: Testimony for HB761 on 2/7/2011 10:15:00 AM

LATE
Testimony

-----Original Message-----

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]
Sent: Sunday, February 06, 2011 2:38 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: jyadao@stfrancishawaii.org
Subject: Testimony for HB761 on 2/7/2011 10:15:00 AM

Testimony for HLT 2/7/2011 10:15:00 AM HB761

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Joy Yadao
Organization: St Francis Healthcare System of Hawaii
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: jyadao@stfrancishawaii.org
Submitted on: 2/6/2011

Comments: